

Dr. Burgess Special Address September 28, 2018

Investing in American Success

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

The United States House of Representatives recently passed an appropriations bill to fund critical areas of the government. While far from perfect, this bill does include important funds to keep Americans safe, prioritize health and safety, and create economic opportunity.

Since taking office, President Trump has made restoring military readiness one of his top priorities. This appropriations package includes needed resources to continue rebuilding our Armed Forces after too many years of neglect. It also gives our troops their largest pay raise in nine years. As America seeks to build peace through strength around the world, we must continue to invest in the brave men and women who serve our nation.

At a time when our economy is working for the American people, Congress must continue to work to ensure this progress continues. Republicans in Congress are investing in our workforce and making it easier for transitioning service members to find employment here at home.

There is no doubt that the appropriations process is broken. Quite simply, it has been weaponized by Senate Democrats' obstruction and will not improve until the Senate ends its 60-vote threshold to end the filibuster. I agree with President Trump that we must return to regular order. This year when he signs this appropriations package into law, President Trump will become the first president to sign a defense appropriations bill since President Bush in 2006. This step forward is an encouraging sign that we are able to return to regular order.

In the meantime, we cannot let the perfect become the enemy of good, nor can we allow important funding to lapse. Rather than an endorsement of this broken process, my vote in support of the appropriations package was a vote to fully fund our men and women in uniform, for important public health programs upon which all Americans rely, and for provisions that will help our economy continue to improve.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your questions on this issue or any other issue. May God bless you and your family, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.